

The Blessings and Benefits of Problems (Part 4)

Introduction:

1. We have learned that problems are a part of life. Because of the curse of sin on this earth, problems are woven into the fabric of everyday life.
2. There are many internal benefits and blessings of problems. Let's examine some of those benefits.

First, problems can lead us to a state of _____.

Second, problems can teach us _____.

Third, problems can cause us to _____ our relationship with the Lord.

Fourth, problems can open doors for _____ to others.

1. When we are joined to the Lord Jesus Christ, God desires that this relationship bears fruit – that is, other Christians. Romans 1:13-16
2. Many times, problems give to us a very powerful platform through which we can impact _____ for Christ.
3. A great example of this is the Thessalonian believers. 1 Thessalonians 1:6-8
4. When you are going through a problem, remind yourself of two things:
 - I am _____ the only one. 1 Corinthians 10:13a
 - *“Whom resist steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world.” 1 Peter 5:9*
 - Others _____ my help. 2 Corinthians 1:4-6
5. While God is not sending problems into our lives, He desires to take the problems that we encounter and use them for His glory and for the _____ of others. Romans 8:28

6. Some of the greatest opportunities in our lives come disguised as _____ . Have you found opportunity in your problems – spiritual opportunity?
7. In your problems, God desires to do a work ____ you (deepen your relationship with Him), but He also desires to do a work _____ you (take your problems and use them to help others)!
8. Jesus told the disciples to abide in Him (the vine), and bring forth fruit. John 15:4-5
 - First law of branches – Stay _____ to the vine! God desires to work in you and draw you into a deeper fellowship with Him.
 - Second law of branches – Be _____, not barren! God desires to work through you and impact others for Christ.